

Message Text

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PASS OFFICE OF COMPETITIVE ASSESSMENT

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TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT MANPOWER PROGRAMS

REF: STATE 191603

1. MANPOWER PROGRAMS IN THE FRG ARE OPERATED BY THE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (BUNDESANSTALT FUER ARBEIT) IN NUERNBERG AND ARE FINANCED BY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUNDS CONTRIBUTED BY WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS. (FOR MORE PARTICULARS SEE EMBASSY'S RECENT A-593, SEP 19, 73 IN RESPONSE TO STATE A-7415, AUG 29, AS REQUESTED BY THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPT OF LABOR). THE USE OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUNDS FOR PURPOSES OF RETRAINING AND UPGRADING SKILLS WAS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INNOVATION OF THE 1969 MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT ACT (ARBEITSFOERDERUNGS-GESETZ).

2. A TOTAL OF 260,265 WORKERS RECEIVE TRAINING IN THREE MAJOR PROGRAMS INCLUDING:
A. UPGRADING OF SKILLS (212,783 PARTICIPANTS)
B. RETRAINING (31,901 PARTICIPANTS)
C. INTRODUCTION TO WORK ROUTINE (15,601 PARTICIPANTS)
TOTAL MONEY SPENT FOR SUCH PROGRAMS WAS DM 1,490 MILLION IN 1972.

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3. CASH INCENTIVES AND BONUSES ARE GRANTED NEEDY PERSONS

TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN FACTORY VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR IN TRAINING WORKSHOPS OR OTHER TRAINING INSTITUTIONS. ABOUT 266,000 PERSONS RECEIVED SUCH INCENTIVES IN 1972 WITH COSTS TOTALING DM 330 MILLION.

4. WORK RELIEF PROJECTS AND WORKERS' WELFARE ARE RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT IN THE FRG SINCE GERMAN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE AND FULL EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS EXIST (SEE REF). HOWEVER, THE 1969 MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT ACT WHICH REPRESENTS THE LEGAL BASIS FOR THE AFORE-MENTIONED PROGRAMS, PROVIDES FOR SPECIAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE PROGRAMS TO INCREASE LABOR MOBILITY; DM 27 MILLION ALLOCATED IN 1972 FOR THIS PURPOSE. ANOTHER MINOR PROGRAM ENCOURAGES CREATION OF JOBS FOR OLDER WORKERS. THIS PROGRAM COST DM 1.5 MILLION IN 1972.

5. THERE IS NO SPECIAL PROGRAM TO PROVIDE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS IN IMPORT-IMPACTED INDUSTRIES. SUCH PROBLEMS ARE HANDLED ON AN AD HOC BASIS INCLUDING THE NEGOTIATION OF SPECIAL "SOCILA PLANS" BETWEEN FACTORY MANAGEMENT AND WORKS COUNCIL PROVIDING FOR SEPARATION ALLOWANCES AND JOB PLACEMENT AND COUNCELING, RETRAINING SERVICES AND OTHER INCENTIVES PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE. THERE HAVE BEEN FEW PROBLEM CASES SINCE LABOR IS NOW IN SHORT SUPPLY IN THE FRG.

6. A SPECIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR HANDICAPPED AND DISABLED PERSONS ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE UPGRADING OF SKILLS AND VOCATIONAL RETRAINING (SEE 2A AND B ABOVE). ADDITIONAL RESOURCES SPENT FOR SUCH REHABILITATION AMOUNTED TO DM 66.4 MILLION IN 1972.

7. APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE GENERALLY OPERATED AND FINANCED BY EMPLOYERS IN THE FORM OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING. SUCH PROGRAMS ARE REGULATED AND SUPERVISED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THERE ARE ABOUT 1.3 MILLION YOUNG PERSONS (OUT OF A TOTAL 22 MILLION EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS) RECEIVING APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING IN SHOPS AND OFFICES. THIS HAS BEEN THE TRADITIONAL BACKGROUND OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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GERMAN VOCATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEM. THE ABOVE PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ONLY PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING TO PROMOTE THE INDIVIDUAL UPGRADING OF SKILLS OR RETRAINING AND MOSTLY AFFECTS PERSONS WHO FOR TECHNOLOGICAL OR OTHER REASONS CANNOT FIND A JOB IN THEIR OLD OCCUPATION.HILLENBRAND

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